REMARKS

The foregoing preliminary amendment amends claims 1 and 8 so as to clarify the intended subject matter of the present invention. No new matter has been added. Entry of the foregoing preliminary amendment is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

Date:

By:

Michael E. Fogarty

Registration No. 36,139

600 13th Street, N.W., Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20005-3096

Telephone: (202) 756-8000 MEF:men

12/29/04

Facsimile: (202) 756-8087 WDC99 1023742-1.060188.0565